

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments made above and the remarks contained herein.

STATUS OF CLAIMS AND SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENTS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-9 will be pending in this application. Claims 10-29 have been canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, their subject matter.

OBVIOUSNESS-TYPE DOUBLE PATENTING

On pages 2-3 of the Office Action dated June 4, 2009, the Office has rejected claims 10-29 on the basis of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-24 of U.S. Patent No. 7,517,461 (Nyman et al.); claims 1-27 of U.S. Patent No. 7,465,402 (Nyman et al.) or claims 1-23 of U.S. Patent No. 7,390,420 (Nyman et al.) taken in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,558,780 (Vancas) and U.S. Patent No. 6,083,400 (Nyman et al.). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons given below.

Because claims 10-29 have been canceled, this rejection is moot.

INDEFINITENESS REJECTION

At pages 3-4 of the Office action dated June 4, 2009, the Office has rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons given below.

Applicants have amended the claims to resolve the antecedent basis issues raised by the Office. As a result, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is no longer applicable, and should be withdrawn.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

At pages 3-4 of the Office action dated June 4, 2009, the Office has stated that claims 1-9 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants note with appreciation that these claims should now be in condition for allowance.

ANTICIPATION REJECTION

At pages 5-8 of the Office action dated June 4, 2009, the Office has rejected claims 10 and 13-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,558,780 (Vancas) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,083,400 (Nyman et al.). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons given below.

This rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of claims 10-29.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all claims are in condition for allowance.

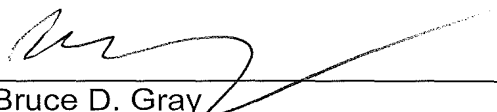
Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that she be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: August 18, 2009

By:


Bruce D. Gray
Registration No. 35799

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
703 836 6620